

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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Department of State

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FROM: NICOSIA

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TO: Secretary of State

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TALBOT.

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RMR

I SHOULD ALSO LIKE AGAIN TO REFER TO POSSIBILITIES THAT MAKARIOS BE ASKED TO APPROVE ISSUANCE OF PLATES AND DRIVERS. LICENSES ON TEMPORARY BASIS WITHOUT CHARGE (EMBTel 538). THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS EITHER PARTY DECIDED TO RAISE QUESTION OF AGREEMENT UNDER MAKARIOS. LETTER OF JANUARY 1960. I REVIVE THIS SUGGESTION NOW BECAUSE DURING NEXT FEW WEEKS WE WILL PROBABLY BE SIGNING PL 480 (TITLE I), AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT AND BECHTEL WATER ARRANGEMENTS. NEGOTIATIONS ON ALL THESE MATTERS ARE IN FINAL STAGES WHICH PROVIDE FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR DISCUSSION WITH MAKARIOS AND KYPRIANOU. IT HAS MERIT OF PUTTING MATTER OFF IF WE ARE NOT READY TO CONSIDER CONCLUSION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO STATIONS AND THEIR PERSONNEL.

BASIS FOR THIS SUGGESTION IS THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL TOLD ME ON ONE OCCASION THAT HE THOUGHT MINISTER OF INTERIOR HAD AUTHORITY UNDER CYPRUS LAW AND REGULATIONS TO SET ASIDE BLOCK OF REGISTRATION PLATES AND TO ISSUE THEM ON TEMPORARY BASIS WITHOUT CHARGE PENDING FINAL SOLUTION OF WHOLE QUESTION. I MENTIONED THIS TO MAKARIOS AND KYPRIANOU SOMETIME AGO, BUT NEITHER HAS PICKED UP ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SUGGESTION THUS FAR AND WE HAVE HELD OFF DISCUSSING THIS ASPECT FURTHER UNTIL WE HAD EXAMINED WHOLE QUESTION OURSELVES AND DECIDED WHICH APPROACH WAS BEST SUITED TO OUR NEEDS.

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WILKINS

State Dept. review completed

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